

Message Text

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FOR ILA/DILLON

SUGGEST THIS MESSAGE BE CALLED TO DIRECTOR KEOGH'S ATTENTION.

SUMMARY: FAVORABLE MEXICAN REACTION TO TRANSITION OF
POWER SUGGESTS AGENCY SHOULD STRENGTHEN INFORMATIONAL-
CULTURAL PROGRAM ON AMERICAN CHARACTER, RULE OF LAW,
AND FUNCTIONING OF CONSTITUTION AND INSTITUTIONS. END
SUMMARY

DISCUSSION/TREATMENT

1. APPRECIATION OF MEXICAN INTELLECTUALS AND MAIN-IN-THE-STREET
FOR PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION GIVES EVIDENCE OF AGENCY'S PROPER
HANDLING OF WATERGATE AND SUBSEQUENT EVENTS AND WITH REKINDLED
INTEREST IN U.S. SYSTEM SUGGESTS PROPITIOUS MOMENT FOR WORLD-
WIDE CAMPAGIN ON ITS STRENGTH AND VIABILITY FOR U.S.

2. BILINGUAL AMBASSADOR WITH ELOQUENCE AND DIPLOMATIC FALIR
FOR CLARIFYING CONFUSING ISSUES WAS FULLY COOPERATIVE WITH
USIS IN EXPLAINING THROUGH MEDIA THE TRANSITION FROM ONE
PRESIDENT TO ANOTHER AND RAMIFICATIONS FOR NATION TO DEGREE
THAT PUBLIC UNUSUALLY UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHETIC.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 06919 150046Z

FLOW OF WELL-EDITED, PERTINENT MATERIAL NEEDED FOR FURTHER

USE BY AMBASSADOR AND ROUTINE USIS PROGRAM OUTPUT.

3. WATERGATE ORDEAL IN U.S. HAS BEEN FOLLOWED CAREFULLY IN MEXICO. PERIOD RAN PARALLEL TO GROWING AWARENESS BY MEXICANS AND PROBABLY OTHER PEOPLES ABROAD THAT WATERGATE WAS NOT INTERNAL POLITICAL POWER PLAY IN TRADITION OF MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT RATHER CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS AT WORK, REFLECTING THE WILL AND CONCERN OF A HIGHLY MORAL AND IDEALISTIC NATION. AS RESULT, NIXON RESIGNATION WAS ALMOST UNANIMOUSLY APPRECIATED AS EVIDENCE OF POWER OF A PEOPLE UNDER A DEMOCRACY TO HOLD ITS OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR DEEDS WHILE IN OFFICE; ACCORDINGLY THE DIGNIFIED ASSUMPTION OF PRESIDENTIAL POWER BY GERALD FORD VIEWED AS MANIFESTATION OF STRENGTH AND JUSTICE OF THE SYSTEM.

4. WE BELIEVE THE VIVID FUNCTIONING OF U.S. DEMOCRACY GIVES AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND UPCOMING BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION NEW SIGNIFICANCE. DESPITE TRAGEDY OF WATERGATE IT MAY NOW BE CONVERTED TO ASSET IN AGENCY'S INFORMATIONAL-CULTURAL PROGRAMS. FOLLOWING AGENCY'S POLICY OF HONESTY AND CANDOR, A SOPHISTICATED APPROACH CAN CONVINCINGLY SHOW IT AS THE ULTIMATE MANIFESTATION OF THE STRENGTH OF THE AMERICAN VERSION OF DEMOCRACY AND COROLLARILY PROJECT THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEIR PHILOSOPHY. HENCE, POST SUGGESTS AGENCY CONSIDER FORD ASSUMPTION OF PRESIDENCY AS OPPORTUNITY TO INITIATE NEW DIMENSION TO OVERSEAS OBSERVANCE OF BICENTENNIAL.

5. WE CAN NOW BE ON THRESHOLD OF NEW AND EXCELLENT UNDERSTANDING ABROAD OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY. WORLDWIDE FOCUS ON WATERGATE-RESIGNATION-TRANSITION CAN AND SHOULD NOW BECOME GENUINE RESURRECTION OF FAITH AND RESPECT FOR U.S. FOR MANY PEOPLES WHO HAVE TAKEN JAUNDICED AND CYNICAL VIEW OF UNITED STATES, STARTING WITH VIETNAM AND CONTINUING THROUGH WATERGATE TO THE PRESENT.

6. WATERGATE SHOULD NOW BE PROJECTED THROUGHOUT WORLD AS EQUIVALENT OF PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION, ACCOMPLISHED NOT BY FORCE OF ARMS, BUT RATHER BY THE FORCE OF A DEEP SENSE OF MORALITY AND FAITH IN LAW EMANATING FROM THE NATIONAL CHARACTER AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 06919 150046Z

CONFIDENCE IN FUNCTIONING OF CONSTITUTION AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS

AN AGENCY FILM DEMONSTRATING JURIDICAL PROCESS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION APPLIED TO WATERGATE AFFAIR SHOULD BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY FOR TELEVISION AND WHERE POSSIBLE THEATRE SHOW-

INGS. FILM SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY PRESTIGE PUBLICATION
SIMILAR TO AGENCY'S PUBLICATIONS ON JAZZ, THREATRE, LITERA-
TURE, MOTION PICTURE. IN ADDITION, TIME IS RIGHT FOR PUB-
LICATIONS ON THE THREE BRANCHES OF U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THEIR
FUNCTION NOT ONLY IN TIME OF CRISIS BUT AS CONSTANTLY
VIGILANT AND AT WORK TO PROTECT THE NATION AND TO INSURE
HONEST, FAIR GOVERNMENT. AGENCY SHOULD SEEK SEVERAL
OBJECTIVE MEANS OF PRESENTING THE MEDIA'S ROLE IN WATER-
GATE WITH EMPHASIS ON ROLE OF FREE PRESS IN OUR SOCIETY.
CARTER

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